



New York Field Office

<http://nyfo.fws.gov>

Partners for Fish & Wildlife



Congressional District #23

John McHugh

"This is the best thing the government ever did for me," said Harold Cole about the 26 acres of restored wetlands on his St. Lawrence County property. Mr. Cole is one of hundreds of landowners in the 23rd Congressional District, and among the more than 2,500 in New York who have joined with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to restore wildlife habitat on their lands. Through its innovative Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program, the Service provides technical advice and funding to help landowners like Mr. Cole realize their goal of making their land a better place for wildlife and, in the process, a better place for themselves.

Partners for Fish and Wildlife Accomplishments In Congressional District 23

Number of Landowners with Completed Projects	219
Acres of Wetland Habitat Restored	5257
Acres of Grassland Habitat Restored	2239
Miles of Riparian Habitat Restored	6.6
Number of Sites Restored	493
Number of Landowners Participating in PFW	766
Number of Landowners on the Waiting list	143

Accomplishments

New York State's Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program was initiated in 1990 in the St. Lawrence Valley to restore wetland habitat for waterfowl and other migratory birds. Since then the Partners Program has been very active in Congressional District 23 restoring all kinds of wildlife habitat to benefit a variety of wildlife species, and the landowners as well.



Hyde Lake Outlet

One such project was restored on Hyde Lake in the Town of Theresa where PVC sheet piling was installed in a ditch that was dynamited to drain land for agriculture. This project restored the original water level on the 700 acre lake, 5 acres and wetland habitat and stabilized the outlet of the lake. Boy Scouts, The Hyde Lake Association, and other partners all helped to complete the project. The Lake is home to nesting loons, osprey, and many species of waterfowl and other migratory birds.

Goals

- Restore 300,000 acres of wetlands, primarily in the St. Lawrence Valley and Lake Ontario Plain, Used by waterfowl, shorebirds, and wading birds.
- Restore 100,000 acres of grasslands in the St. Lawrence Valley which has the highest densities of grassland nesting birds in eastern North America.
- Remove 1,000 acres of invasive species in the 23rd Congressional District for the benefit of migratory birds.

Partners

Natural Resources Conservation Service
National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
SUNY Environmental Science and Forestry
St. Lawrence Valley Sportsmen's Club
Soil and Water Conservation Districts
Cornell University
Student Conservation Association
National Audubon Society
Thousand Island Land Trust

Ducks Unlimited
NYSDEC
Town of Dekalb
NYS DOT
Pheasants Forever
Boy Scouts of America
Ruffed Grouse Society
National Grid
Upper Susquehanna Coalition

Farm Service Agency
SUNY Morrisville
Plattsburgh SUNY
Edna Bailey Sussman Foundation
Trout Unlimited
The Nature Conservancy
Great Swamp Conservancy
Hyde Lake Association